

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 SAB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 INT-05 OIC-02 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 /080 W

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O R 021820Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1624

INFO USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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DEPARTMENT FOR LOU KAHN - IO/CMD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, ECLA, SENV, OCON

SUBJECT: ECLA PREPARATORY MEETING FOR UN WATER CONFERENCE

REF: LIMA 7900, LIMA 7901

1. PLENARY ON SEPTEMBER 1 HEARD GENERALLY POSITIVE AND SUB-  
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STANTIVE STATEMENTS FROM MEXICO, PERU, HONDURAS, URUGUAY,

GUYANA, WEST INDIES ASSOC. STATES, GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR, AND NICARAGUA, WHICH CONCLUDED OPENING STATEMENTS, EXCEPT FOR HAITI. BRAZIL ELECTED NOT RPT NOT TO SPEAK.

2. ONLY HONDURAS REP MADE MENTION OF PANAMANIAN INITIATIVE, AND HE STATED AGREEMENT THAT INITIATIVE DEALT WITH A RESOURCE QUESTION. OTHERS SILENT ON PANAMA INITIATIVE.

3. WORKING GROUP (WG) ON ACTION PROPOSALS CONCLUDED ITS WORK AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 1, APPROVING, BY CONSENSUS, A PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE PLENARY AS THE "CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ECLA REGION FOR THE UN WATER CONFERENCE." (THESE MATERIALS DO NOT INCLUDE ANY MENTION OR RECOMMENDATION ON THE CANAL).

4. THE ONLY SERIOUS POINT OF DISAGREEMENT IN THE WG INVOLVED A CUBAN REQUEST TO ELIMINATE A PARAGRAPH REFERENCING THE OAS. PERU, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, AND PARAGUAY SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF RETAINING THE OAS LANGUAGE, WHEREUPON THE CUBAN DEL THEN LAUNCHED INTO AN ATTACK ON THE U.S.-OAS BLOCKADE. U.S. DEL (SEIFMAN) RESPONDED, POINTING OUT THAT POLEMICAL STATEMENTS NEITHER SERVE THE SPIRIT NOR THE PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE AND SHOULD THEREFORE BE AVOIDED. LANGUAGE WAS THEN DRAFTED BY SECRETARIAT WHICH WILL BE INCLUDED IN WG CONSENSUS DOCUMENT RECOMMENDING "THE OAS CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS IN TECHNICAL FIELDS." FOLLOWING WG APPROVAL, CUBA DEL INDICATED HE WOULD NEVERTHELESS MAKE HIS VIEWS ON THE OAS KNOWN IN THE PLENARY.

5. PANAMA TABLED DRAFT RESOLUTION (SEPTTEL) ENTITLED "SOVEREIGN UTILIZATION OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE." RESOLUTION IS SEPARATE FROM RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UN WATER CONFERENCE DEVELOPED IN WG.

6. FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SEPTEMBER 2 BY HAITI AND SEVERAL UN AGENCIES, PLENARY WILL TAKE UP WG REPORT, THEN "OTHER MATTERS," WHICH WILL INCLUDE PANAMANIAN RESOLUTION, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSIDERATION OF FINAL REPORT WILL BE DONE FRIDAY MORNING.

7. COMMENT: PANAMANIAN DRAFT RESOLUTION HAS SOME OF THE FLAVOR OF PANAMANIAN RESOLUTION APPROVED AT ECLA HABITAT PREPARATORY MEETING, BUT WITH WATER AS SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE, INSTEAD OF LAND. ALTHOUGH MANY DELS UNHAPPY OVER PANAMA INITIATIVE, WE FULLY EXPECT RESOLUTION TO CARRY AS AT OTHER FORA IN VIEW OF LATIN SOLIDARITY. GIVEN THE

CIRCUMSTANCES, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT WE CAN STRIKE A BETTER BARGAIN. THUS, THE SOONER THE DISCUSSION OF THIS PORTION OF THE REPORT IS CLOSED, THE LESS LIKELY OTHER EXTRANEIOUS ISSUES WILL BE RAISED. SMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Concepts:** WATER, ENVIRONMENTAL MEETINGS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, PLANNING MEETINGS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 SEP 1976  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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